

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KINSHA 05007 191342Z  
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 PC-01 AID-05  
TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00  
ICAE-00 INRE-00 A-01 OPR-02 SCS-06 CA-01 HA-05  
MCT-01 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 /119 W  
-----040968 191353Z /45

O 191240Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9811  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI IMMEDIATE  
USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1545  
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 5007

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, MOPS, PINT, CG, FR, UK, BE  
SUBJECT: SHABA ATTACK: ZAIRIAN REQUEST FOR US ASSISTANCE IN  
INTERNATIONAL CONTINGENCY OPERATION; LETTER FROM  
PRESIDENT MOBUTU

REF: A) STATE 126431 B) KINSHASA 4995

1. AT 0915 ZULU 19 MAY AMBASSADOR RECEIVED LETTER FROM PRESIDENT  
MOBUTU REQUESTING US ASSISTANCE TO FRENCH AND BELGIAN EFFORTS  
IN ZAIRE. TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS:

2. QUOTE: KINSHASA, LE 19 MAI 1978  
A SON EXCELLENCE, MONSIEUR  
WALTER L. CUTLER  
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AMBASSADEUR DES ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE  
KINSHASA/GOMBE  
MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,  
LA SITUATION QUI PREVAUT A L'HEURE ACTUELLE DANS LE SUD-EST  
DE MON PAYS EST DEVENUE PARTICULIEREMENT PREOCCUPANTE NOTAMMENT  
POUR LES RESSORTISSANTS ETRANGERS VIVANT A KOLWEZI.

C'EST AINSI QUE LES GOUVERNEMENTS BELGE ET FRANCAIS ON ENVISAGE  
D'ENTREPRENDRE TOUTES LES MESURES D'URGENCE SUSCEPTIBLES  
DE GARANTIR A TOUS CES RESIDENTS LA PROTECTION NECESSAIRE EN  
PAREILLES CIRCONSTANCES.  
J'Y AI MARQUE MON ACCORD.

AUSSI, JE DEMANDERAI, DANS LE MEME SENS, AU GOUVERNMENT  
DES ETATS-UNIS DE S'ASSOCIER, SANS PLUS TARDER, AUX EFFORTS  
DES AUTORITES GOUVERNEMENTALES BELGES ET FRANCAISES.

VEUILLEZ AGREER, MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR, L'EXPRESSION DE  
TOUTE MA CONSIDERATION.

LE PRESIDENT-FONDATEUR DU MOVEMENT POPULAIRE DE LA REVOLUTION,  
PRESIDENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE DU ZAIRE  
MOBUTU SESE SEKO KUKU NGBENDU WA ZA BANGA  
GENERAL DE CORPS D'ARMEE. END QUOTE

3. UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION BY EMBASSY FOLLOWS:

QUOTE:

KINSHASA, MAY 19, 1978  
TO THE HONORABLE  
WALTER L. CUTLER  
AMBASSADOR OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.  
KINSHASA/GOMBE.  
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DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR,

THE SITUATION WHICH NOW PREVAILS IN THE SOUTH-EASTERN PART OF  
MY COUNTRY HAS BECOME A SOURCE OF PARTICULAR CONCERN, ESPECIALLY  
FOR THE FOREIGN NATIONALS LIVING AT KOLWEZI.

BECAUSE OF THIS, THE BELGIAN AND FRENCH GOVERNMENTS HAVE  
PROPOSED TO UNDERTAKE ALL EMERGENCY MEASURES TO ASSURE ALL THOSE  
RESIDENTS THE PROTECTION NECESSARY IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES.

I HAVE AUTHORIZED THAT.

CONSEQUENTLY, I WOULD ASK, TO THIS END, THAT THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE UNITED STATES JOIN, WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY, THE EFFORTS OF  
THE BELGIAN AND FRENCH GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES.

PLEASE ACCEPT, MR. AMBASSADOR, THE EXPRESSION OF ALL MY CONSIDER-  
ATION.

THE PRESIDENT-FOUNDER OF THE POPULAR MOVEMENT OF THE REVOLUTION,  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAIRE

(SIGNED)

MOBUTU SESE SEKO KUKU NGBENDU WA ZA BANGA

L.T.G. END QUOTE

CUTLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, RESCUE OPERATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978KINSHA05007  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780211-0467  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** KINSHASA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780541/aaaabica.tel  
**Line Count:** 120  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** fe468c9a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION L  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 126431, 78 KINSHASA 4995  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2640381  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SHABA ATTACK: ZAIRIAN REQUEST FOR US ASSISTANCE IN INTERNATIONAL CONTINGENCY OPERATION; LETTER FROM PRESIDENT MOBUTU  
**TAGS:** PINS, MOPS, PINT, CG, FR, UK, BE, US, (MOBUTU SESE SEKO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/fe468c9a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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20 Mar 2014  
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